

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 03489 122149Z

11

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

ACDA-05 SAM-01 SAJ-01 /074 W
----- 104622

R 121427Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8687
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 3489

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GR, CY

SUBJECT: CYPRIOT LEADERS DEPART ATHENS - PRESS TREATMENT

REF: ATHENS 3467

1. WEEKEND NEWS MEDIA CONTINUED TO GIVE PROMINENT
COVERAGE TO ACTIVITIES AND PRESS STATEMENTS OF
ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS AND CLERIDES DURING THEIR ATHENS
STOPOVER. PRESS ALSO REPORTED HEAVILY MAKARIOS' ARRIVAL
REMARKS AT LARNACA AIRPORT, INCLUDING THAT HE WAS
SATISFIED WITH TALKS IN WASHINGTON WITH SECRETARY AND IN
ATENS WERE FULL IDENTITY OF VIEWS WITH PM CARAMANLIS AND
OTHER GREEK OFFICIALS WAS CONFIRMED.

2. BEFORE LEAVING ATHENS MARCH 9, MAKARIOS TOLD NEWSMEN
THAT HE DID NOT FEEL HE HAD THE RIGHT TO DISCLOSE THE
CONTENTS OF HIS MEETING WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER AND HE DID
NOT WANT TO MAKE STATEMENT AS TO WHETHER HE WAS OPTIMISTIC
OR PESSIMISTIC, OR ON HIS IMPRESSIONS OF THE MEETING. "I CAN
ONLY SAY THAT THE WHOLE MEETING TOOK PLACE IN CORDIAL
ATMOSPHERE."

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3. TO QUERY ON DIFFICULTIES CONNECTED WITH REOPENING OF NICOSIA AIRPORT, ARCHBISHOP SAID AIRPORT IS SMALL PART OF WHOLE CYPRUS PROBLEM. HE ADDED THAT HE DOUBTED AGREEMENT COULD BE REACHED SINCE TURKS INSIST THAT AIRPORT PERSONNEL BE EVENLY DIVIDED.

4. WHILE IN ATHENS MAKARIOS MET WITH FORMER PM KANELLOPOULOS AND GREEK OPPOSITION POLITICIANS (HE MET SEPARATELY WITH GOERGE MAVORS --CU/NF, ANDREAS PAPANDREOU-- PASOK, AND BABIS DRACOPOULIS AND IOANNIS DYRKOS--BOTH KKE/INTERIOR). HE REMARKED THAT HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH THESE LEADERS, AS THOSE WITH GOG OFFICIALS, REVEALED AN IDENTITY OF VIEWS. HE CONCLUDED: "A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT CALLS FOR PERSISTENCE, PATIENCE, STRENGTH OF SPIRIT, FAITH, AND DETERMINATION." AFTER MEETING WITH ARCHBISHOP, DRACOPOULOS TOLD CORRESPONDENTS THAT ARCHBISHOP DENIED RESIGNATION RUMORS AND SAID " I HAVE NO RIGHT TO DO SO."

5. IN REPLY TO A QUESTION ON REFUGEES, MAKARIOS SAID IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT THAT DID NOT PROVIDE FOR A FULL SOLUTION OF THIS PROBLEM.

KUBISCH

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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